Appelicant

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Gieseke et al.

Examiner:

Unknown

al No.:

10/721,934

Group Art Unit:

Notice of Allow.

Unknown

i nea.

November 24, 2003

Docket:

758.1111USC1

Confirmation

No.:

None

DEC 2 3 2003

Date:

Due Date: Title:

FILTER SYSTEM; ELEMEN

SONFIGURATION; AND METHODS

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

Thereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop 2nd Prelim. Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on December 19, 2003.

Name: Sharon Trent

Mail Stop 2nd Prelim. Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

23552
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Sir:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

☐ Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing

⊠ Second Preliminary Amendment

Return postcard

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers or any future reply, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C. P.O. Box 2903, Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903 612.332.5300

Name: Julie R. Daulton

Reg. No.: 36,414 JRD:S Trent

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Name: Sharon Trent

SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Before prosecution of this application, please amend the claims as follows:

Amendments to the claims begin on page 2.

Remarks/Arguments being on page 8.